

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0049]:

[0049]            Figures 5A-[[5W]] illustrate various configuration of implantable conduits.

Please amend paragraph [0061]:

[0061]            The invention includes assessing the degree of the collateral ventilation taking place in an area of a lung to select a site for creation of a collateral channel. The invention may include locating a site for creation of a collateral channel by visually examining an airway for dynamic collapse. One method of visual examination includes the use of a fiber optic line or camera which may be advanced into the lungs and through the airways. Other variations of visually examining the lung to determine the location of a site for the creation of the collateral channel using non-invasive imaging 211, including but not limited to radiography, computer tomography, ultrasound, Doppler, and acoustic imaging. Such imaging methods may also be used to determine the amount of collateral channels to be created.

Please amend paragraph [00117]:

[00117]           The conduit may also be any device capable of maintaining a patent opening, e.g., a plug 573 as shown in Fig. 5W, that is temporarily used as a conduit and then removed after the channel has healed in an open position. In another variation the plug may be a solid plug 573 without an opening that is either bio-absorbable or removable. In such a case, the plug may be placed within an opening in tissue and allow the tissue to heal forming a collateral channel with the plug 573 being ultimately absorbed into the body or removed from the body.